

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.Final Results of Cereal and Hay Harvest, 1950-51.

There still are a few minor wheat districts where the completion of the collection has been delayed, and a number of odd returns from farmers in other districts are outstanding but, rather than delay the final results, a safe estimate has been made for all these and hence the totals now submitted may be accepted subject to slight alteration.

SEASONAL CONDITIONS. The average rainfall over the agricultural areas for April, June, July, September and November was below the mean of the previous 45 years, for August it was equal to the mean, and for May and October it was above the mean. Although the total to the end of September was only 8.55 inches compared with the mean of 9.94, fortunately 1.85 inches were recorded for October compared with the mean of 1.33 and November was near normal with 0.89 inches compared with 1.00. The latter rains, associated with good weather generally assured better than average harvests for wheat, barley and oats.

The yield of wheat - 30,935,859 bushels - was practically the same as the December forecast of 30,800,000.

During the period that wheat areas were being extended, it was usual for the average wheat yield in bushels per acre to be less than the April-November agricultural areas rainfall in inches, but with the decreasing wheat areas it is noted that the average wheat yields exceed the inches of rain. For the last 45 years, the average wheat yield has been 10.86 bushels and the April-November rainfall 12.27 inches, but for this last season the wheat yield was 16.76 bushels while the rainfall has been only 11.29 inches.

The yield of barley was estimated at 16,300,000 bushels but it was intimated that it possibly might be 17,500,000 bushels. The actual harvest was 16,718,985 bushels.

The Yield of oats also was practically the same as the forecast - 3,531,779 bushels compared with 3,500,000.

NOTE:- The 1950-51 particulars are shown hereunder with those for 1949-50 in parentheses. For statistical purposes, the weight of bags is not counted as grain.

WHEAT:- The yield of 30,935,859 (28,350,860) bushels averaged 16.76 (14.95) bushels per acre from an area of 1,845,990 (1,896,324) acres including areas failed. Including wheat for hay and green forage, the total area was 1,948,608 (2,005,907) acres.

WHEAT AND FALLOW:- On fallowed land 1,470,603 acres of wheat produced 26,959,077 bushels averaging 18.33 bushels per acre. On not fallowed land, there were 375,387 acres with 3,976,782 bushels averaging 10.59 bushels. The average yields the previous season were 16.28 bushels on fallow land and 10.41 on land not fallowed.

BARLEY:- The yield totalled 16,718,985 (12,725,240) bushels and the average per acre was 21.86 (18.34). 15,796,135 bushels were reported to be 2 row (malting) and 922,850 bushels 6 row. The acreage for grain was 764,993 (693,758) and for all purposes 793,807 (721,149). The 1950-51 yield exceeds the previous record of 15,363,461 bushels in 1947-48.

OATS:- The yield totalled 3,531,779 (3,463,997) bushels and the average per acre was 13.03 (13.25). The acreage for grain was 271,098 (261,416) acres and for all purposes 663,449 (624,592).

CEREALS ETC. USED ON FARMS:- Farmers reported that they used the following quantities of cereals, etc. on their farms during the twelve months ended March 1951. For seed - Wheat 2,077,941, Barley 923,239 and Oats 816,410 bushels. For feed for livestock and poultry - Wheat 919,632, Barley 579,052, Oats 783,590 bushels and Hay and Chaff 183,048 tons. Of the wheat produced in 1950-51, it was reported that 2,039,174 bushels were retained on the farms for seed and 493,300 bushels for feed.

RYE:- There had been a decided increase in the areas cropped with rye. In 1935-36 there were only 1,680 acres and for 1945-46 a total of 51,516. For 1950-51 there was a total of 49,247 of which 34,579 (39,537) ~~acres~~ were for grain yielding 146,554 (220,339) bushels.

FIELD PEAS:- 218,300 (164,104) bushels from 16,662 (16,545) acres.

HAY:- 261,150 (294,590) acres were cut for hay, wheaten being 89,664 (99,373) and oaten 126,366 (145,389) acres. The total yield was 363,304 (384,604) tons, wheaten being 130,276 (136,819) and oaten 158,634 (166,889). Average tons per acre were 1.39 (1.31).

ACREAGES:- The following table shows the total areas under wheat, barley and oats for all purposes, (grain, hay or green fodder) for 1930-31 - the maximum year for wheat; for 1939-40 - the maximum year for barley (until recent years) and oats; for 1943-44 - the lowest areas in recent years; for 1945-46 - showing the large increase during the two seasons; for each of the next five seasons, and for 1951-1952 representing the areas that farmers indicated they intended to sow when particulars of the recent harvest were being collected during the past 3 or 4 months. It is noted that the combined areas under wheat, barley and oats are decreasing slightly, the decrease for wheat being greater than the increase for barley and oats. The increased area under oats is due principally to increased areas being sown for grazing.

Season	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Total
1930-31 acres	4,507,213	267,369	519,300	5,293,882
1939-40 "	2,948,110	558,559	834,793	4,341,462
1943-44 "	1,675,778	304,382	558,065	2,538,225
1945-46 "	2,407,253	479,384	686,128	3,572,765
1946-47 "	2,662,150	520,027	485,736	3,667,913
1947-48 "	2,486,505	580,682	559,931	3,627,118
1948-49 "	2,159,218	728,398	622,588	3,510,204
1949-50 "	2,005,907	721,149	624,592	3,351,648
1950-51 "	1,948,608	793,807	663,449	3,405,864
1951-52 "	1,620,000	840,000	810,000	3,270,000

VARIETIES SOWN:- Particulars of the acreages sown with the principal varieties of wheat, barley and oats are being published separately.

THE ATTACHED STATEMENTS show details of 1950-51 crops in Statistical Divisions and also the 1950-51 totals compared with the five previous seasons.

A. W. BOWDEN,

GOVERNMENT STATIST.

Statistical Office,
ADELAIDE.

30th July, 1951.

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

FINAL RESULTS OF CEREALS & HAY, 1950-51.

1. ACREAGE CROPPED

Divisions	Total Cereals Peas, Hay Forage				Hay Total	Fed Off Areas (total)
		Wheat	Barley	Oats		
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Central	867,404	323,291	308,898	41,147	118,499	61,767
Lower North	752,166	480,673	132,912	39,139	46,513	48,374
Upper North	143,831	121,278	6,159	3,695	5,897	6,336
South Eastern	124,783	27,235	22,398	25,468	36,885	12,190
Western	1,027,398	569,015	129,853	126,770	21,892	178,110
Murray Mallee	615,768	324,498	164,773	34,879	31,464	30,101
Total 1950/51	3,531,350	1,845,990	764,993	271,098	261,150	336,878
Total 1949/50	3,480,141	1,896,324	693,758	261,416	294,590	277,265
Increase	51,209	- 50,334	71,235	9,682	-33,440	59,613

2. PRODUCTION OF GRAIN AND HAY

Divisions	GRAIN						Hay Total
	Wheat		Barley		Oats		
	Bush.	Aver.	Bush.	Aver.	Bush	Aver	Tons
Central	6,407,220	19.82	7,522,099	24.35	683,916	16.62	184,010
Lower North	10,191,033	21.20	3,167,987	23.84	657,929	16.81	59,335
Upper North	2,434,092	20.07	118,112	19.18	54,737	14.81	7,341
South Eastern	577,666	21.21	527,369	23.55	582,608	22.88	59,144
Western	7,665,813	13.47	2,719,124	20.94	1,209,838	9.54	22,715
Murray Mallee	3,660,035	11.28	2,664,294	16.17	342,751	9.83	30,759
Total 1950/51	30,935,859	16.76	16,718,985	21.86	3,531,779	13.03	363,304
Total 1949/50	28,350,860	14.95	12,725,240	18.34	3,463,997	13.25	384,604
Increase	2,584,999	1.81	3,993,745	3.52	67,782	-0.22	- 21,300

3. FIVE YEARS' COMPARISON

Year	WHEAT			Rainfall Agric. April- Nov.	BARLEY	OATS
	Area	Yield	Aver. per Acre			
	Acres	Bush.	Bush.	Inches	Bush.	Bush.
1945-46	2,165,004	21,033,841	9.72	10.74	7,566,146	3,178,450
1946-47	2,518,948	27,906,001	11.08	10.13	8,424,067	2,780,364
1947-48	2,374,873	32,524,422	13.70	13.93	15,363,461	2,394,261
1948-49	2,063,034	26,136,346	12.67	11.73	12,103,446	2,643,419
1949-50	1,896,324	28,350,860	14.95	12.18	12,725,240	3,463,997
Mean	2,203,637	27,190,294	12.42	11.74	11,236,472	3,492,074
1950/51	1,845,990	30,935,859	16.76	11.29	16,718,985	3,531,779

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